

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 17-605V

Filed: April 4, 2018

UNPUBLISHED

YVONNE SALMON,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;  
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine; Shoulder  
Injury Related to Vaccine  
Administration (SIRVA)

*Shealene Priscilla Wasserman, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for petitioner.*  
*Linda Sara Renzi, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

### **DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES<sup>1</sup>**

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On May 5, 2017, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that that her November 5, 2014 influenza (“flu”) vaccination caused her to suffer left shoulder injuries. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On December 6, 2017, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”). On April 4, 2018, respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating petitioner should be awarded \$211,308.24, consisting of past and future lost earnings (\$81,308.24), and pain and suffering (\$130,000.00). Proffer at 1-2. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$211,308.24, consisting of past and future lost earnings (\$81,308.24), and pain and suffering (\$130,000.00), in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Yvonne Salmon.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**

Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.



entitled under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).<sup>2</sup> Petitioner agrees.

## **II. Form of the Award**

The parties recommend that the compensation provided to petitioner should be made through a lump sum payment of \$211,308.24 in the form of a check payable to petitioner.<sup>3</sup>

Petitioner agrees.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAD A. READLER  
Acting Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO  
Acting Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

CATHARINE E. REEVES  
Deputy Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

ALEXIS B. BABCOCK  
Assistant Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

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<sup>2</sup> Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering.

<sup>3</sup> Petitioner is a competent adult. Proof of guardianship is not required in this case.

/s/ Linda S. Renzi  
LINDA S. RENZI  
Senior Trial Counsel  
Torts Branch, Civil Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 146  
Benjamin Franklin Station  
Washington, D.C. 20044-0146  
Phone: (202) 616-4133

DATED: April 4, 2018